

To:

From:

Subject: Contact with Grallspace 1 24 February 1953
Contact Report #3

1. Opening of Meeting:

Case officer [redacted] met agent Grallspace 1 at 1500 hours 24 February 1953 in front of the Stadtkino. Agent and case officer then proceeded on foot to agent's room in the Stein Hotel. Rapport was established along the way by discussing agent's housing search. Grallspace 1 was given the names of several real estate agencies in Salzburg after he complained that he had had no luck by watching newspaper ads.

2. Production:

None.

3. Operational Matters:

a. The discussion was opened by confronting agent with the problem that faces us in Salzburg, i.e., to find and set up suitable targets against the Soviets and more important to find personnel to aid in these operations. Case officer asked agent to give considerable thought as to what type of Soviet targets we could operate against, emphasizing that we must start from scratch with no leads or traces. In an effort to determine again whether agent has any acquaintances or connections in Austria with any group which might prove useful, Grallspace 1 was questioned whether he could offer any leads to personnel in the Salzburg area. He replied that he knew of none, but then immediately added as a suggestion that he had numerous contacts in Munich who had friends in the Salzburg area. Case officer mentioned that this may have to be the case, although it would in many respects be better if we obtained our own leads. As for targets, Grallspace 1 suggested counter-espionage and propaganda, since espionage would be difficult to handle from Salzburg. As personnel for CE and PW targets he suggested young ladies who would have no objection to entertaining the Red Army.

b. In the course of general operational conversation it was pointed out to Grallspace 1 that since Salzburg is so small a person's activities are easily noticed and one can readily draw attention to himself. It was also remarked that Salzburg becomes a target for Soviet IS because of the presence of USFA headquarters and also the large concentration of DP's. This explanation was directed at discouraging Grallspace 1 from any further rash actions such as the Rosenstuberl affair. Agent was also requested that in the course of the next few weeks to spot coffee houses, restaurants, etc., in an effort to learn Salzburg and the type of people in the city. A brief casing report of each establishment with small sketches would also be very useful.

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c. Grallspace 1 suggested as a source for finding personnel who have business contacts with the Russians or who travel in the Soviet Zone the various police nets and files. Agent also confided that once while he was in a Vienna cafe he was pressed for an answer as to what nationality he was. He claimed his only escape was to pass himself off as a Russian officer. Twenty minutes later a man sat down at his table and said he wished to work for the Russians, agent thereby illustrating how easy it would be to make contacts. Case officer agreed that such action would undoubtedly create contacts but that it would definitely be out of the question in the future.

4. Personal Matters:

a. Agent asked whether it would be permissible for him to order through the mail about ten Russian books from the Russian book store Das Internationale Buch in Vienna. These books would cover a variety of topics, e.g., literature, history, science, military, etc. In rejecting the idea case officer suggested that Grallspace 1 give him a list of the books and [] would attempt to get them through our channels or through []

b. The subject of agent's automobile, which is presently in Germany, came up again. Agent explained that he could "sell" the car to a friend of his wish whom he had conducted blackmarket and smuggling deals after the war's end. The latter would receive a trip ticket for the newly purchased car. Agent claims that he could then drive the car securely over the border to Salzburg as a trip ticket is made out for the automobile and not for the owner. It was decided that further thought and investigation would have to be given to the matter before an answer could be returned. Grallspace 1 said that a greater problem would be a driver's license. He stated that he possessed a driver's license from Berlin which is in a different name. Therefore, it was agreed that it would be better to obtain an Austrian driver's license if such a transaction did not entail too many complications. Agent was asked to check into the matter discreetly and to report at the next meeting.

5. Administrative Matters:

Agent requested that his wife, who had been receiving only one half of her allotment, receive the full allotment from now on. Previously agent had received one half of the allotment himself.

6. End of Meeting:

The meeting ended at 1600 hours. Arrangements had been made to meet in agent's room at the Stein Hotel on 2 March 1953 at 1500 hours.

7. Comments:

None.

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1-Progress report file

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